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THE TOWN OF MERTHYR TYDFIL

County Borough of Merthyr Tydfil.

1939

# Annual Report

of the

Medical Officer of Health

1939



MERTHYR TYDFIL:

JOSEPH WILLIAMS & SONS (MERTHYR), LTD., 22, GLEBELAND STREET.

1941.



COUNTY BOROUGH OF MERTHYR TYDFIL.



*Annual Report*  
*of the*  
*Medical Officer of Health*  
*1939*



MERTHYR TYDFIL :  
JOSEPH WILLIAMS AND SONS (MERTHYR), LIMITED.

1941



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# County Borough of Merthyr Tydfil.

## List of Health Committees and Officials.

### HEALTH COMMITTEE.

*Chairman :*

Alderman L. M. JONES, J.P.

*Vice-Chairman :*

Councillor H. I. WILLIAMS.

*Members :*

Aldermen Jennings, Powell, J. Williams and T. Edmund Rees ;  
Councillors Morgan, O'Driscoll, Mrs. Thomas, Brobyn, Wilson,  
B. M. Davies, L. Jones, B. J. Williams, Mrs. Aubrey, J. H.  
Jones, with the Mayor and Ex-Mayor.

### MARDY HOSPITAL SUB-COMMITTEE.

*Chairman :* Alderman L. M. JONES, J.P.

*Members :*

Aldermen John Williams, S. Jennings, W. Powell, and L. Jones ;  
Councillors Mrs. Thomas, H. I. Williams, Brobyn, B. J. Williams  
and O'Driscoll, with the Mayor.

### MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE COMMITTEE.

*Chairman :*

Alderman L. M. JONES, J.P.

*Vice-Chairman :*

Councillor H. I. WILLIAMS.

with the Members of the Health Committee.

*Co-opted Members :* Mrs. Bell and Mrs. McPhail.

### SUPPLY OF MILK TO NURSING AND EXPECTANT MOTHERS AND INFANTS.

*Chairman :* Alderman L. M. Jones.

*Members :*

Councillor Mrs. Thomas and Mrs. Bell (co-opted).

## PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICERS OF THE LOCAL AUTHORITY

## MEDICAL :

T. H. STEPHENS, M.B., C.H.B., D.P.H., Medical Officer of Health, School Medical Officer, Superintendent Isolation Hospital, Medical Officer Public Assistance Committee, Medical Officer under Mental Deficiency Act.

W. G. LEONARD HALL, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., Assistant Medical Officer of Health (half-time), Assistant School Medical Officer.

ALYS M. WILLIAMS, B.SC., M.B., B.CH., Assistant Medical Officer of Health (half-time), Assistant School Medical Officer and Inspector of Midwives (half-time).

A. DEANIE ALBAN, B.SC., M.B., B.CH., Assistant Medical Officer of Health (half-time), Assistant School Medical Officer and Inspector of Midwives (half-time).

E. WARD, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P. (part time), Medical Officer to Tydfil Lodge, Medical Officer to the Venereal Clinic, Public Vaccinator, Tydfil Lodge.

C. M. PROBERT, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., Resident Medical Officer, Tydfil Lodge.

DRS. S. CRESSWELL, S. BLOOM, M. BLOOM, R. RYCE, C. R. WHITE and E. FOSTER, District Medical Officers and Public Vaccinators.

Dr. PARKER, Visiting Orthopædic Surgeon to Maternity and Child Welfare and School Clinics.

H. SCHOLBERG, M.B., Pathologist under Venereal Diseases Scheme. Professor STRACHAN, M.D., F.R.C.S., F.R.C.P., F.C.O.G., Consulting Gynæcologist and Obstetrician.

D. J. JONES, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., District Medical Officer, Dowlais.

ROBERT OWEN, F.R.C.S., Ear, Nose and Throat Surgeon.



**Public Health Officers to the Local Authority—continued.**

DENTAL.

J. A. WYLIE, L.D.S., Dental Officer to the Maternity and Child Welfare Department, School Dental Officer.

ANALYTICAL.

RHYS CHARLES, F.S.C., F.C.S. (part time), Public Analyst; also acts as part-time Bacteriologist.

SANITARY.

H. LL. JENKINS, M.R.S.I., Certificate of Royal Sanitary Institute for inspection of meat and other foods, Chief Sanitary Inspector under Housing Acts, Inspector under the Food and Drugs Acts.

L. MILLS, A.R.S.I., Certificate of Royal Sanitary Institute for inspection of meat and other foods, Sanitary Inspector, Inspector under Housing Acts, Inspector under the Food and Drugs Acts.

B. WILLIAMS, A.R.S.I., A.R.P.S., Certificate of Royal Sanitary Institute for inspection of meat and other foods, Sanitary Inspector, Inspector under Housing Acts, Inspector under the Food and Drugs Acts.

IORWERTH THOMAS, A.R.S.I., Certificate of Royal Sanitary Institute for Inspection of Meat and other foods, Sanitary Inspector, Inspector under Housing Acts, Inspector under the Food and Drug Acts.

D. A. JONES, A.R.S.I., Certificate of Royal Sanitary Institute for Inspection of Meat and other foods, Sanitary Inspector, Inspector under Housing Acts, Inspector under the Food and Drug Acts.

SPENCER P. HARRIS, A.R.S.I., Sanitary Inspector, Shops Inspector Inspector under the Food and Drugs Acts, Inspector under Housing Acts.

CLERICAL.

*Chief Clerk:* T. C. THOMAS, C.R.S.I.

I. CHARLES, I.A.R.P. J. A. WILLIAMS. NEAL DAVIES, I.A.R.P.  
S. LEWIS (part-time). W. HUGHES (part-time).

# **Public Health Officers to the Local Authority—continued.**

VETERINARY SURGEON (part-time).

Major W. D. WILLIAMS, M.R.C.V.S., "Gormont," Caerphilly.

## HEALTH VISITORS AND SCHOOL NURSES.

E. M. LEWIS, C.M.B. (trained nurse).

M. J. PARRY, C.M.B., C.R.S.I. (trained nurse).

E. LEWIS, C.M.B., C.R.S.I. (trained nurse).

E. WILLIAMS, C.R.S.I., Fever and Tuberculosis Training.

A. L. EVANS, C.M.B., New Health Visitor's Certificate (trained nurse).

J. R. MEYRICK, C.M.B., New Health Visitor's Certificate (trained nurse).

E. EVANS, C.M.B., New Health Visitor's Certificate (trained nurse)

E. J. WATKINS, C.M.B., New Health Visitor's Certificate (trained nurse).

*Supervisor of Midwives* : Miss A. DAVIES.

*Midwives* : Nurses L. M. DOWSE, A. HENNESSEY, H. AXHORNE, H. THORNE, M. JONES, B. LEWIS, H. DAVIES, M. JONES, A. SUSSEX, B. JONES, B. CARLICK, C. A. HAGGETT, B. M. JONES, M. J. WILLIAMS, A. DAVIES, E. A. GILLAM.

## ORTHOPAEDIC NURSE.

M. E. G. JONES. For Maternity and Child Welfare and School Clinics.

## DENTAL NURSE.

M. EVANS. For Maternity and Child Welfare and School Clinics.

## ISOLATION HOSPITAL STAFF.

*Matron* : C. JONES. Four Sisters, one Assistant Nurse and twelve Probationers.

County Borough of Merthyr Tydfil.

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**ANNUAL REPORT**  
**OF THE**  
**MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH.**

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PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT,  
TOWN HALL,  
MERTHYR TYDFIL.

*To the Mayor, Aldermen and Councillors of the  
County Borough of Merthyr Tydfil.*

Ladies and Gentlemen,

I beg to submit for your consideration the Annual Report of the vital statistics and sanitary conditions of the Borough for the year 1939. The Report is in accordance with the Memorandum issued by the Ministry of Health, and is an outline of the main conditions relating to the health of the Borough and the utilities of the department.

I wish to put on record the valuable services rendered by Inspector Jenkins, who had served for a period of 40 years. Inspector Mills was appointed senior sanitary inspector on the retirement of Inspector Jenkins.

## GENERAL OBSERVATIONS.

In the Annual Report for the year 1938 I reviewed briefly the changes in the industrial conditions that had occurred in this Borough. The following are the new factories which have been erected in this Borough since 1936: Messrs. Hall's Accessories, Ltd.; Chemical Factory at Bon-y-maen Farm, Pant; Button Factory; Silk Stocking Factory, and Soap Factory.

The total number of people employed in these factories is approximately 2,650. This has reflected itself in the general improvement of the standard of living of the people who had been subjected to a most severe depression over a number of years. There are, however, 6,300 unemployed in the Borough at present.

### HOUSING.

The housing conditions are still in a deplorable condition, and Merthyr—between slum clearance and overcrowding—requires at least another 2,000 houses.

Since 1936, up to December a total of 365 houses have been erected by the Corporation—46 at Heolgerrig and 319 at Galon Uchaf. With the exception of 37, which were given to key men of new industries, these houses were let to tenants from slum dwellings which had been condemned.

The following is the detailed information in respect of the above:—

#### HEOLGERRIG—

Number of houses built	...	...	...	...	46
First house tenanted	28/10/36				
Last house tenanted	18/2/37				

## GALON UCHAF No. 1—

Number of houses built	...	...	...	...	62
First house tenanted	19/10/36				
Last house tenanted	27/3/37				

## GALON UCHAF No. 2—

Number of houses built	...	...	...	...	170
First house tenanted	18/8/38				
Last house tenanted	9/2/39				

## GALON UCHAF No. 3—

Number of houses built	...	...	...	...	50
First house tenanted	2/5/39				
Last house tenanted	9/5/39				

KEY MEN'S HOUSES completed in 1939	...	...	...	...	37
------------------------------------	-----	-----	-----	-----	----

Total	...	...	...	...	365
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## RIVERS AND STREAMS.

Nothing further has been done regarding the scheme put forward to the Distressed Areas Commissioner regarding the nuisance arising as the result of sewage discharging into the Morlais Brook.

## LANDSLIDE AT ABERCYNON.

I wish to make a special note of the fact that a landslide occurred at Craig Eŵan, Leyshon Common, Abercynon, on the 5th December, 1939, between the Traveller's Rest and Cilfynydd. This had the effect of refuse tip of the Abercynon Collieries sliding down the face of the mountain, covering the main Cardiff road for a distance of approximately 100 yards to a depth of between 6 and 12 feet, and proceeding to vacant land on the west side of the main road, filling the Glamorgan Canal and the

railway foundation of the G.W.R., and then proceeding to completely fill the river bed to a depth of 20-30 feet, and finally depositing a quantity of refuse for a short distance on the land of the Abercynon Sewage Farm.

Much damage has been caused to the farm lands and to certain sewers, and also to the river bed in its lower reaches (where a concrete wall was erected some years ago for the protection of the farm lands) which has now silted up to a dangerous degree on account of floods.

The area of land on the Sewage Farm, and which can never be reclaimed, is 4.2 acres. This will involve the party responsible in the construction of a modern rotary sprinkler of the equivalent value of the land lost, the construction of which should be proceeded with forthwith.

#### INFANTILE MORTALITY.

The Infantile Mortality rate was 85 as compared with 78 last year. This slight fall in the Infantile Mortality rate compares unfavourably with the drop in the Infantile Mortality rate in the whole country and in the other Great Towns and Boroughs.

#### DIPHTHERIA.

It is gratifying to note that the case mortality for diphtheria is the lowest on record. The number of children completely immunised during the year was 374 ; partially immunised, 159.

## MERTHYR TYDFIL COUNTY BOROUGH.

Area of Borough.....	17,761 acres
Population (Census 1931) .....	71,108
(Males, 36,317 ; Females, 34,791)	
National Registration 1939.....	62,772
(Males, 30,739 ; Females, 32,033)	
Estimated Resident Population, Midsummer 1939 .....	61,520
Birth Rate for 1939 .....	14.68
Average Birth Rate for ten previous years .....	14.88
Crude Death Rate from all causes for 1939 .....	14.49
Corrected Death Rate from all causes for 1939 .....	16.2
Death Rate from Pulmonary Tuberculosis for 1939 .....	.7
Death Rate from other forms of Tuberculosis for 1939 .....	.09
Infantile Mortality Rate for 1939 per thousand births .....	85.08
Assessable Value (General Rate).....	£223,982
The Produce of a Penny Rate is .....	£820
Number of Houses on Rate Book, 1939 .....	15,850

### POPULATION.

1931 (Census).....	71,108
1937 (Registrar General's estimated Population, Mid-summer	62,250

The following table shows the changes that have taken place in the 10 yearly periods in the population of Merthyr Tydfil since 1851 :—

1851	...	...	...	46,692
1861	...	...	...	50,461
1871	...	...	...	51,891
1881	...	...	...	48,857
1891	...	...	...	58,080
1901	...	...	...	69,228
1911	...	...	...	80,990
1921	...	...	...	80,116
1931	...	...	...	71,108
1939 (estimated)	...	...	...	61,520



It will be observed that there was an increase in the population from 1901 to 1911 of 11,762, and from 1911 to 1921 a decrease of 874—a percentage decrease of 1.1. From 1911 to 1921 the excess of births over deaths was 9,598, but there was a loss by migration of 10,472.

The inter-censal variation from 1921 to 1931 was as follows :

A decrease in population amounting to 9,008, equivalent to a percentage decrease of 11.2.

Migration accounted for 16.9% ; but when births and deaths were taken into consideration there was an increase of 5.7%, making a total percentage decrease in population of 11.2%.

### BIRTHS—1939.

Net number of Births registered	...	...	...	902
Birth Rate per 1,000 of the population	...	...	...	14.68
Birth Rate for England and Wales	...	...	...	15.0
Birth Rate for the 126 Boroughs and Great Towns	...	...	...	14.8

The birth rate per 1,000 living in the year 1911 was 30.7 ; 1921, 27.5 ; 1931, 15.9 ; 1939, 14.68.

The illegitimate births are as follows :—

	Total Births.		
Males	...	...	18
Females	...	...	27

The number of illegitimate live births allocated to the Borough, therefore, is 45, equivalent to a rate of 49.8 per 1,000 births. Last year the figure was 43.



**STILL-BIRTHS.**

The Registrar General has supplied the following tables :—

				Still-births Registered
Males	...	...	...	33
Females	...	...	...	24

The total still-births (legitimate and illegitimate) was 57, equivalent to a rate of .92 per 1,000 of the population. The figure for England and Wales is .59, and for the 126 Boroughs and Great Towns, .59.

**ILLEGITIMATES.**

				Still-births Registered
Males	...	...	...	Nil
Females	...	...	...	Nil

Still-births registered allocated to the Borough: Nil.

**DEATHS—1939.**

Number of Deaths, 1939	...	...	...	...	...	892
Death Rate per 1,000 for Merthyr	...	...	...	...	...	14.49
Death Rate per 1,000 for England and Wales	...	...	...	...	...	12.1
Death Rate for the 126 Boroughs and Great Towns	...	...	...	...	...	12.0

The number of deaths registered in Merthyr during the year 1939 was 1,117; but with the addition of 53 deaths of Merthyr residents occurring outside the area and the exclusion of 139 deaths of non-residents within the area, the total number of deaths for Merthyr Tydfil was 892, equivalent to a rate of 14.49 of the estimated mid-year population.

The death rate for 1938 was 15.69, showing an increase of 1.20. In 1911 it was 15.6; in 1921 it was 12.7; and in 1931 it was 14.2. This recorded death rate has been multiplied by a

comparability factor given by the Registrar General of 1.12, and brings the standardised death rate to 16.2, as compared with 17.5 for last year.

Of the 139 deaths of non-residents, 93 occurred in Tydfil Lodge, 19 in the General Hospital, 14 in the Mardy Hospital, 11 in Pontsarn Sanatorium, 1 at the Ocean Colliery, and 1 at the Troedyrhiw Bathing pool.

Of the 53 residents who died outside the Borough, 14 occurred at Cefn Coed Hospital; 1 at Talygarn Institute, Pontyclun; 1 at Abercwm Drift, Glynneath; 12 at Cardiff Royal Inf.; 1 at Cwm-dare; 1 at Cefn Mably Hospital; 1 at Kingsway; 1 at Carmarthen-shire Inf.; 1 at West Kent Gen. Hosp., Maidstone; 1 at East Moors Works, Cardiff; 2 at Gorphwysfa Infirmary, Brecon; 1 at Thornbury; 1 at Newport Docks; 2 at Coedcae Colliery, Glynneath; 1 at Dowlais Cardiff Colliery, Llanwonno; 1 at Abercynon; 1 at Sully Hospital; 1 at St. Mary's Hospital, Paddington; 1 at Weymouth Hospital; 1 at Whittington Hall Inst., Chesterfield; 1 at Nantyffin Colliery; 1 at St. Winifrede's Hosp., Cardiff; 1 at Cardiff; 3 at Aberdare; 1 at Tavistock.

The deaths were distributed in the Wards as follows; and, on the estimated population of each Ward, the percentage death rate per 1,000 of the population is as follows:—

		National Registration 1939.		Deaths.		Percentage.
Dowlais ...	...	9,061	...	192	...	21.07
Penydarren ...	...	10,143	...	81	...	9.08
Park ...	...	7,089	...	102	...	11.43
Cyfarthfa ...	...	6,139	...	75	...	8.40
Town ...	...	9,195	...	197	...	22.08
Plymouth ...	...	7,771	...	83	...	9.3
Merthyr Vale ...	...	5,934	...	87	...	9.75
Treharris ...	...	7,440	...	75	...	8.4

No great significance can be attached to the above, because the age and sex distribution in the respective Wards has not been taken into consideration.

I have examined the total number of deaths, their age and sex distribution, and their causes, and I think you should be aware of certain facts relating to the major killing diseases.

### HEART DISEASE.

			Total.
Males	...	...	124
Females	...	...	112

The deaths recorded in the age and sex groups are as follows :—

	0-5	5-15	15-25	25-35	35-45	45-55	55-65	65-75	75 upw'ds
M.	—	—	4	2	3	14	36	47	18
F.	—	2	4	4	7	10	30	32	23

Heart disease, therefore, was responsible for 26.4% of the total causes of death, and the death rate of 3.83 per thousand of the population.

### CANCER AND MALIGNANT DISEASE.

			Total.
Males	...	...	41
Females	...	...	34

The deaths recorded in the age and sex groups are as follows :—

	0-5	5-15	15-25	25-35	35-45	45-55	55-65	65-75	75 upw'ds
M.	—	—	—	1	2	7	13	14	4
F.	—	—	—	1	1	4	7	10	11

Cancer and Malignant Disease, therefore, was responsible for 8.4% of the total causes of death, and a death rate of 1.21 per thousand of the population.

### CEREBRAL HAEMORRHAGE.

					Total.
Males	...	...	...	...	41
Females	...	...	...	...	31

The deaths recorded in the age and sex groups are as follows :—

	0-5	5-15	15-25	25-35	35-45	45-55	55-65	65-75	75 upw'ds
M.	—	—	—	—	1	6	11	17	6
F.	—	—	—	—	—	1	9	14	7

Cerebral Hæmorrhage, therefore, was responsible for 8.07% of the total causes of death, and a death rate of 1.18 per thousand of the population.

### **TUBERCULOSIS (Pulmonary and other forms).**

	Total.
Males	26
Females	24

The deaths recorded in the age and sex groups are as follows :—

	0-5	5-15	15-25	25-35	35-45	45-55	55-65	65-75	75 upw'ds
M.	1	1	8	9	3	2	2	—	—
F.	1	—	11	5	5	—	1	1	—

Tuberculosis, therefore, was responsible for 5.6% of the total causes of death, and a death rate of .81 per thousand of the population.

### **CONGENITAL DEBILITY, PREMATURE BIRTH, AND MALFORMATION.**

	Total.
Males	24
Females	16

Congenital Debility, Premature Birth and Malformation, therefore, was responsible for 4.48% of the total causes of death and a death rate of .65 per thousand of the population.

### **BRONCHITIS.**

Males	28
Females	21

The deaths recorded in the age and sex groups are as follows :—

	0-5	5-15	15-25	25-35	35-45	45-55	55-65	65-75	75 upw'ds
M.	5	1	—	—	1	2	1	6	12
F.	5	—	—	—	—	—	—	8	8

Bronchitis, therefore, was responsible for 5.49% of the total causes of death, and a death rate of .79 per thousand of the population.

### PNEUMONIA.

	Total.
Males	25
Females	20

The deaths recorded in the age and sex groups are as follows :—

	0-5	5-15	15-25	25-35	35-45	45-55	55-65	65-75	75 upw'ds
M.	6	1	1	3	5	3	4	1	1
F.	7	1	—	1	3	2	3	2	1

Pneumonia, therefore, was responsible for 5.04% of the total causes of death, and a death rate of .73 per thousand of the population.

### DEATHS AT CERTAIN AGE PERIODS.

	No. of Deaths.			Percentage of Total Deaths.		
0-1	...	...	77	...	...	8.64
1-2	...	...	12	...	...	1.35
2-5	...	...	11	...	...	1.24
5-15	...	...	12	...	...	1.35
15-25	...	...	43	...	...	4.83
25-35	...	...	39	...	...	4.41
35-45	...	...	57	...	...	6.41
45-55	...	...	82	...	...	9.2
55-65	...	...	165	...	...	18.5
65-75	...	...	225	...	...	25.23
75 upwards	...	...	169	...	...	18.84

It will be observed that the percentage of the total deaths occurring under 45 years of age is 28.23, and over 45 is 71.77.

### FATAL ACCIDENTS.

The following were the fatal accidents and suicides recorded during the year :—

Accidents involving motor vehicles, 7 ; Suicides, 13 ; Scalding, 1 ; Falling downstairs, 3 ; Colliery, 2 ; Falling from roof, 11 ; Burns, 3 ; Works apparatus, 2 ; Fall from tramcar, 1 ; Suffocation, 1 ; Murder, 1.

### INFANTILE MORTALITY.

The number of deaths under 1 during the year was 77, which is 4 higher than last year, and gives a rate of 85 per 1,000 births.

Of the deaths 72 were of legitimate infants, equivalent to a rate of 84.0 per 1,000 legitimate births, while 5 were illegitimate infants, equivalent to a rate of 111 per 1,000 illegitimate births. For England and Wales the Infantile Mortality Rate was 50 per 1,000, and for the 126 Boroughs and Great Towns it was 53 per 1,000 births.

Of the 77 deaths 27 occurred under 1 week, 14 occurred under 1 month, 13 1-3 months, 12 3-6 months and 11 6-12 months.

The sub-joined tables give the Infantile Mortality Rate for most of the years 1900 to 1939. It will be observed that there was a significant decline in this Mortality Rate from the year 1900 to 1915. From 1919 on to 1939 the rate has fluctuated between 74 and 100. There is, of course, an increased maternal care, but the external environmental conditions—social and domestic—have adversely affected the conditions in this Borough, and the Infantile Mortality Rate of 85 per 1,000 live births is far too high.

The number of deaths occurring in the first month of life was 41, 27 of which occurred under 1 week. Of the 27, 13 were due to premature birth, 4 to convulsions, 3 to asthenia, 3 to congenital debility, 1 to heart failure, and 3 to other causes.

The number of deaths occurring between 4 weeks and under 3 months was 13, 4 of which were due to convulsions, 3 to bronchitis, 1 to marasmus, 1 to heart failure, 1 to suffocation, 1 to pneumonia, 1 to congenital debility, and 1 to other causes.

Between 3 months and 6 months 12 deaths occurred, 4 of which were due to convulsions, 3 to marasmus, 1 to bronchitis, 3 to pneumonia, and 1 to other causes.

The Ward distribution as shewn in Table IVA. was as follows :—

Dowlais ...	...	13	Town ...	...	20
Penydarren ...	...	7	Plymouth ...	...	11
Park ...	...	6	Merthyr Vale ...	...	7
Cyfarthfa ...	...	9	Treharris... ..	...	4

### INFANTILE MORTALITY RATE FROM THE YEAR 1900 TO 1939.

1900	...	No Return	1920	...	...	84
1901	...	261	1921	...	...	90
1902	...	No Return	1922	...	...	102
1903	...	153	1923	...	...	86
1904	...	No Return	1924	...	...	80
1905	...	204	1925	...	...	99
1906	...	179	1926	...	...	83
1907	...	154	1927	...	...	103
1908	...	176	1928	...	...	93
1909	...	142	1929	...	...	107
1910	...	137	1930	...	...	91
1911	...	153	1931	...	...	105
1912	...	128	1932	...	...	73
1913	...	126	1933	...	...	89.7
1914	...	119	1934	...	...	74
1915	...	157	1935	...	...	74
1916	...	No Return	1936	...	...	79
1918	...	No Return	1937	...	...	79
1918	...	No Return	1938	...	...	77
1919	...	91	1939	...	...	86



Infantile Mortality Rate for England and Wales	50
Infantile Mortality Rate for the 126 County Boroughs and Great Towns ... ..	53

### INFANT WELFARE CENTRES.

- (a) Number of Centres provided and maintained by the Council: Nos. 3 and 4, Glebeland Street, Merthyr Tydfil; Plough School, Gellifaelog, Dowlais; Church Hall, Troed-yrhiw; Bethel Hall, Treharris.
- (b) Total number of children who attended at the Centres for the first time during the year, and who, on the date of their first attendance, were—
- |  |        |       |
|--|--------|-------|
| (i) Under 1 year of age                | ... .. | 1,364 |
| (ii) Between the ages of 1 and 5 years | ... .. | 958   |
- (c) Total number of children who attended the Centres during the year, and who, at the end of the year, were—
- |                                       |        |       |
|---------------------------------------|--------|-------|
| (i) Under 1 year of age               | ... .. | 759   |
| (ii) Between the ages of 1 to 5 years | ... .. | 1,563 |

### SUPPLY OF MILK.

Milk, or its equivalent in milk powder, is supplied to infants up to 12 months, and fresh milk to nursing mothers if the children are breast-fed.

Expectant mothers also receive milk from the seventh month of pregnancy. The regulations existing with reference to the free supply of milk are as follows :—



(i) A woman has to produce either an Unemployment Card or a card showing that she is in receipt of Public Assistance. Those working or in part-time employment must come within the following income scale :—

### MILK SCALE.

*After deduction of Rent.*

	s.	d.
1 person ... ..	13	0
2 persons...	10	6
3 persons and over ... ..	9	0

The cost to the Maternity and Child Welfare Committee for the year ended March 31st, 1940, was £4,116 19s. 7d. (including milk for toddlers).

### NATIONAL BIRTHDAY TRUST FUND.

The above Fund is now discontinued as from the end of last year.

### TODDLERS' CLINIC.

A Clinic for toddlers is held once fortnightly for children from 2 to 5 years of age, excepting those who are in attendance at Elementary Schools. Milk is given on medical grounds after the income test has been satisfied.

## MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE.

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### MIDWIVES ACT, 1936.

This Act came into operation on the 31st of July, 1937, and a domiciliary service of salaried midwives was commenced. The Borough was divided into certain areas, roughly corresponding to the actual Wards, and 12 Midwives and one Relief Midwife were appointed at a salary of £150 per annum, rising by annual increments of £10 to a maximum of £200 per annum, plus a uniform allowance of £5 and reasonable travelling expenses. In addition to the usual holidays enjoyed by the Town Hall staff, each Midwife has one day a week off per month, with the exception of the week where the Midwife gets an entire week-end off duty, and that occurs once every month.

Each Midwife has to have a telephone installed in her house at the cost of the Local Authority, and an allowance of approximately five guineas a year is granted towards the cost of such. This allowance varies slightly, depending upon the distances that the Midwife has to telephone to the Supervisor. No arrangements were made with any Nursing Associations; the domiciliary service is given entirely by the Local Authority.

The total number of cases attended by the Midwives to the 31st of December, 1939 was 1,001. The average number of cases per Midwife was 83. This number is small, but regard must be had to the peculiar configuration of the Borough and the fact that no Midwife is supplied with a car, and, consequently, long distances have to be undertaken on foot.

The total amount of fees received up to 31st December, 1939, in respect of attendances of Midwives as Midwives or Maternity Nurses was £396 8s. 6d.

The fees charged to individuals for attention as Midwives or Maternity Nurses is as follows, and remission of fee takes place where the income falls below the undermentioned scale :—

Net Weekly Parental Income per head (after deducting Rent and including newly-born infant).	Amount of Fee Recoverable.
Under 10s. ... ..	Nil.
10s. up to 12s. 6d. ... ..	10s.
12s. 6d. up to 15s. ... ..	20s.
15s. and over ... ..	30s.

Subject to—

- (a) Maternity Benefit not being claimed ; but that in the event of two benefits being received, one benefit shall be claimed from, and payable by, the patient.
- (b) Special consideration shall be given by the Maternity and Child Welfare Committee in cases where exceptional expenditure is incurred by the parent, *e.g.*, train or bus fares to and from work.

The scheme is working quite satisfactorily, but there does not appear to be inaugurated any satisfactory scheme for Refresher Courses in South Wales.

### PUERPERAL PYREXIA.

Number of cases of Puerperal Pyrexia ...	4
Number of deaths from Puerperal Sepsis...	Nil
Number of deaths from other Puerperal Diseases ... ..	3

The maternal mortality from Puerperal Sepsis was Nil, as compared with .77 for the whole of England and Wales.

The Puerperal Pyrexia notifications per 1,000 total births, live and still, for England and Wales, was 14.35 ; for Merthyr, 4.16.

Drs. Alban and Williams visited those cases which occurred outside the hospital, and the instructions to the midwife with a view to preventing further infections were carried out.

### **BOARDING-OUT OF CHILDREN.**

The Boarding-out Committee meet once monthly, and the Health Visitors report as to the condition of the home and the children whom they visit several times each month. On the 31st December, 1939, there were 10 children boarded-out.

The functions of the Public Assistance Committee in so far as they relate to the education and maintenance of poor children apart from their parents are carried out by the Education and Maternity and Child Welfare Committees, subject to the general directions of the Public Assistance Committee.

### **MATERNAL MORTALITY.**

Total number of deaths during the year...	...	3
Death rate per thousand live births	...	3.3
Death rate per thousand total births	...	3.1
Deaths from Puerperal Sepsis, rate per thousand		
total births	... ..	Nil

# MATERNAL MORTALITY.

MATERNAL MORTALITY.	1927	1928	1929	1930	1931	1932	1933	1934	1935	1936	1937	1938	1939
(a) Total Number .....	9	12	6	5	7	8	4	2	7	1	4	6	3
(b) From Sepsis .....	2	2	—	2	3	2	2	1	2	1	—	1	Nil
(c) From other causes .....	7	10	6	3	4	6	2	1	5	—	4	5	3
(d) From associated causes .....	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
(e) Rate per 1,000 births ..... L.B.	7.1	9.79	5.01	4.17	6.1	7.69	3.9	1.9	6.88	1.08	4.4	6.3	3.3
T.B.	6.6	9.1	4.66	3.9	5.69	7.13	.62	1.8	6.4	1.02	4.2	5.9	3.1

As stated in previous Reports, a large number of women enter the Infirmary for their confinements, and during the year 1939, 389 women took advantage of these facilities. There is no doubt in my mind that, with the housing conditions as they are at present and the slow progrees we are making to remedy the existing conditions, admission to hospital is an absolute necessity in a large number of cases.

### OPHTHALMIA NEONATORUM.

Number of cases notified	...	...	2
Rate per thousand births	...	...	2.2

The following are particulars of the cases :—

Cases			Vision un- impaired	Vision impaired	Total Blind- ness	Deaths	Rem'vd from District
No. notified	Treated						
	At Home	In Hospital					
2	—	2	2	—	—	—	—

### INFANT LIFE PROTECTION.

The number of foster parents registered during  
the year 1939 was ... Nil

The number of children registered was ... Nil

No new cases were placed on the register during the year 1939, and in no instances were legal proceedings necessary in respect of the infringement of the Act during the year. Nursing and maintenance were found to be satisfactory. There are at present 6 foster parents and 6 children registered.

# Infectious Diseases.

## SCARLET FEVER.

Number of cases for the year 1939	...	...	...	112
Number of deaths	...	...	...	1
Death rate per thousand of the population	...	...	...	.01
Death rate per thousand for England and Wales	...	...	...	.01
Death rate per thousand for the 126 County Boroughs and Great Towns, including London	...	...	...	Nil
Notification rate for England and Wales	...	...	...	1.89
Notification rate for the 126 County Boroughs and Great Towns	...	...	...	1.96
Notification rate for Merthyr	...	...	...	1.8

## Notifications.

The age and Ward distribution was as follows :—

AGE.			WARD.		
Under 1	...	—	Dowlais...	...	35
1-5	...	35	Penydarren	...	9
5-15	...	65	Park	...	5
15-25	...	5	Cyfarthfa	...	1
25-45	...	7	Town	...	12
45-65	...	—	Plymouth	...	20
65 and	...	—	Merthyr Vale	...	9
upwards	...	—	Treharris	...	21

Of the 112 notified, 30 were removed to hospital, and the remainder were nursed at home. The disease continues to be mild in type.

**DIPHTHERIA.**

The number of cases of Diphtheria was	...	...	...	86
Number of deaths	...	...	...	3
Death rate per thousand of the population	...	...	...	.04
Death rate for England and Wales	...	...	...	.05
Death rate for 126 County Boroughs and Great Towns...	...	...	...	.05
Notification rate for Merthyr...	...	...	...	1.3
Notification rate for England and Wales	...	...	...	1.14
For the 126 County Boroughs and Great Towns...	...	...	...	1.21

During 1939 the total number of cases of Diphtheria notified was 86, as compared with 153 for the year 1938, and 141 for the year 1937.

The age and Ward distribution are given in the following table :—

AGE.				WARD.		
Under 1	...	2		Dowlais...	...	25
1-5	...	21		Penydarren	...	2
5-15	...	43		Park	...	—
15-25	...	14		Cyfarthfa	...	5
25-45	...	5		Town	...	5
45-65	...	1		Plymouth	...	1
65 and				Merthyr Vale	...	8
upwards	...	—		Treharris	...	40

The number of deaths certified as being due to Diphtheria was 3, equivalent to a death rate of .04 and a case mortality of 3.5. The disease in a number of instances maintained its virulent character.

As stated in a previous Report, an immunisation campaign was commenced on the 12th of September, 1934. During the year 1939 no children were Schick tested.

Number of children completely immunised...	374
Number of children received first dose ...	80
Number of children received second dose ...	79

The case mortality of those admitted into hospital was 3.4.



An analysis of the age distribution of the notified cases shows that 2.3% were under 1 year of age; 24.4% were under 5 years of age; 50% 5-15; 16.2% 15-25; 5.8 % 25-45; and 1.2% 45-65. There was 1 death under 5 years of age.

The case mortality for diphtheria from 1900 is as follows :—

1900	...	...	22.04	1920	...	...	16.05
1901	...	...	21.8	1921	...	...	20.17
1902	...	No Return		1922	...	...	12.98
1903	...	...	22.72	1923	...	...	9.09
1904	...	No Return		1924	...	...	6.52
1905	...	...	16.66	1925	...	...	9.67
1906	...	...	25.83	1926	...	...	9.52
1907	...	...	25.00	1927	...	...	13.26
1908	...	...	11.25	1928	...	...	7.95
1909	...	...	29.77	1929	...	...	13.13
1910	...	...	9.52	1930	...	...	10.50
1911	...	...	15.91	1931	...	...	10.31
1912	...	...	25.00	1932	...	...	3.63
1913	...	...	23.09	1933	...	...	8.23
1914	...	...	17.02	1934	...	...	8.3
1915	...	...	13.72	1935	...	...	8.3
1916	...	No Return		1936	...	...	8.6
1917	...	No Return		1937	...	...	4.9
1918	...	No Return		1938	...	...	3.9
1919	...	...	3.92	1939	...	...	3.5

The following is the average for 10-yearly periods from 1900 to 1939, viz. :—

1900-1911	...	...	...	20.05
1912-1924	...	...	...	14.75
1925-1934	...	...	...	9.45
1935-1939	...	...	...	5.8

### CEREBRO-SPINAL FEVER.

One case of Cerebro-spinal Fever was notified during the year. There were no deaths.

### ACUTE POLIOMYELITIS AND ENCEPHALITIS LETHARGICA.

One case was notified during the year.

### DIARRHOEA.

Number of deaths	...	...	6
------------------	-----	-----	---

Diarrhoea was certified as the cause of six deaths during the year, giving a death rate of .09 per thousand of the population.

### TUBERCULOSIS.

The total deaths from Tuberculosis during the year was 50, of which five were not notified previously as suffering from Tuberculosis. The ratio of non-notified Tuberculosis deaths to total Tuberculosis deaths was 10.0%.

Five cases of Tuberculosis were notified posthumously during the year, and the Medical Practitioners concerned were communicated with in each case.

The replies received were satisfactory.

### NOTIFICATIONS.

Total number of Notifications	...	...	93
Pulmonary	...	Males ...	39
		Females ...	40
Non-Pulmonary	...	Males ...	8
		Females ...	6

## NOTIFICATION RATES :

Pulmonary	...	Males	...	...	.63
		Females	...	...	.64
Non-Pulmonary	...	Males	...	...	.13
		Females	...	...	.09
Total Notification Rate (all forms)	...		...	...	1.5

## DEATHS.

Total number of Deaths	...	...	...	...	50
Pulmonary	...	Males	...	...	23
		Females	...	...	21
Non-Pulmonary	...	Males	...	...	3
		Females	...	...	3

## DEATH RATES :

Pulmonary	...	...	Males	...	...	.37
			Females	...	...	.34
Non-Pulmonary	...	...	Males	...	...	.04
			Females	...	...	.04
Total Death Rate (all forms)	...	...		...	...	.79

The age distribution is given in the sub-joined table :

Age Periods	Deaths				New Cases			
	Respiratory		Non-respiratory		Respiratory		Non-respiratory	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
0—1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	1
1—2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
2—5	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	1
5—15	—	—	1	—	3	2	3	—
15—25	7	9	1	2	6	25	2	3
25—35	9	5	—	—	11	7	3	1
35—45	3	5	—	—	11	4	—	—
45—55	2	—	—	—	4	1	—	—
55—65	2	1	—	—	4	—	—	—
65—75	—	1	—	—	—	1	—	—
75 and upwards	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
TOTALS	23	21	3	3	39	40	8	6
	50				93			

The Ward distribution of the Notifications were as follows :—

Dowlais	...	22	Town	...	21
Penydarren	...	20	Plymouth	...	5
Park	...	11	Merthyr Vale	...	2
Cyfarthfa	...	6	Treharris	...	6

The Ward distribution of the deaths was as follows :—

Dowlais	...	10	Town	...	9
Penydarren	...	13	Plymouth	...	3
Park	...	1	Merthyr Vale	...	6
Cyfarthfa	...	7	Treharris	...	1

Seventy-four cases were admitted to Hospitals or Sanatoria during the year.

Of the 50 deaths, 38 occurred at home, 12 at institutions.

No action was taken under Section 2 of the Public Health Act, 1925, which empowers the compulsory removal of a patient suffering from Tuberculosis who is in an infectious state and is without proper accommodation.

For the year ended 31st March, 1939, the amount paid to the Welsh National Memorial Association for the treatment of Tuberculosis cases was £7,669 17s. 0d.

The sub-joined table (page 35) gives the returns of the work of the Tuberculosis Dispensary.

### MEASLES.

Number of cases which came to the knowledge of the Department during the year and were visited by

Health Visitors	...	...	...	...	...	208
Number of Deaths	...	...	...	...	...	3
Death rate per thousand of the population	...	...	...	...	...	.04
Death rate for England and Wales	...	...	...	...	...	.01
Death rate for 126 County Boroughs and Great Towns...	...	...	...	...	...	.01

RETURN SHOWING THE WORK OF THE DISPENSARY (OR DISPENSARIES) DURING  
THE YEAR 1939.

DIAGNOSIS	Pulmonary				Non-Pulmonary				Total				Grand Total
	Adults		Children		Adults		Children		Adults		Children		
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	
A—DEFINITE CASES of Tuberculosis on Register at beginning of year ...	106	89	4	9	24	30	22	27	130	119	26	36	311
B—NUMBER OF NEW CASES diagnosed as tuberculous during year ...	27	38	3	4	4	5	2	—	31	43	5	4	83
C—NUMBER OF CASES included in A and B written off the Dispensary Register during the year as—													
(1) Recovered ... ..	1	—	—	—	1	1	—	—	2	1	—	—	3
(2) Dead (all causes) ... ..	25	20	—	1	—	2	1	—	25	22	1	1	49
(3) Removed ... ..	1	6	—	—	—	1	—	—	1	7	—	—	8
(4) For other reasons... ..	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	1
D—NUMBER OF DEFINITE CASES of tuberculosis on the Dispensary Register at the end of year ...	105	101	7	12	27	31	23	27	132	132	30	39	333
Add transfers from other areas and cases "lost sight of" returning...	—	1	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	3	—	—	3
	105	102	7	12	27	33	23	27	132	135	30	39	336



**WHOOPING - COUGH.**

Number of deaths from Whooping Cough	...	...	4
Death rate per thousand of the population	...	...	.06
Death rate for England and Wales	...	...	.03
Death rate for 126 County Boroughs and Great Towns...			.03
Number of cases which came to the knowledge of the Department and were visited by Health Visitor	...		104

**PNEUMONIA.**

Number of Notifications received during the year	...	22
Notification Rate for Merthyr	...	.3
Notification Rate for England and Wales	...	1.02
Notification Rate for 126 County Boroughs and Great Towns	...	1.21
Number of Deaths	...	45
Death Rate per thousand of the population	...	.73

**SMALL - POX.**

No case of Small Pox was notified during the year.

**VENEREAL DISEASES.**

The facilities for diagnosis and treatment for the above condition are in the Mardy Hospital Grounds.

The Clinics are available at 3 p.m. for females on Tuesdays and for males on Thursdays at 5 p.m. The Irrigation Room is open daily (except Sundays) at 12 noon and 5 p.m.

On January 1st, 1939, 37 males and 21 females were under treatment, and during the year 47 males and 8 females came under treatment for the first time. The number of cases which ceased to attend before the completion of treatment was 23 males and eight females. Three males and one female were transferred to other centres for treatment.

The number of cases remaining under treatment on the 31st December, 1939, was 38 males and 15 females.

The number of attendances—

- (a) For individual attention of the Medical Officer was 1,124 males and 583 females.
- (b) For intermediate treatment, *e.g.*, irrigation, was 4,678 males and 583 females.
- (c) The number of cases of congenital syphilis was one male and one female.

A number attending the Clinic were from Glamorgan, Monmouthshire and Breconshire.

#### Attendances at V.D. Clinic 1926—1938.

<i>Year.</i>		<i>Males.</i>		<i>Females.</i>		<i>Total.</i>
1926	...	3862	...	776	...	4638
1927	...	3915	...	1651	...	5566
1928	...	4424	...	1843	...	6267
1929	...	4109	...	1648	...	5757
1930	...	3653	...	1685	...	5338
1931	...	4219	...	1620	...	5839
1932	...	4361	...	1905	...	6266
1933	...	6120	...	1458	...	7578
1934	...	6887	...	1928	...	8815
1935	...	5981	...	1697	...	7678
1936	...	6564	...	1689	...	8253
1937	...	6018	...	1321	...	7339
1938	...	5802	...	995	...	6797

#### ERYSIPELAS.

Number of Notifications received during the year	...	12
Notification Rate for Merthyr	... ..	.19
Notification Rate for England and Wales	... ..	.34
Notification Rate for 126 County Boroughs and Great Towns	... ..	.40
Number of Deaths	... ..	—
Death Rate per thousand of the population	... ..	—

The total number of notifications of persons suffering from Erysipelas received during the year 1939 was 12, as compared with 16 in the previous year.



**CHICKEN-POX.**

Chicken-pox was not notifiable during the year, and we have no knowledge of the number of cases that occurred.

**BRONCHITIS.**

Number of Deaths	...	...	...	...	...	...	49
Death Rate per thousand of the population	...	...					.79

Thirty seven of the deaths occurred from the age of 45 on :—  
21 males and 16 females.

**DYSENTERY, MALARIA AND ANTHRAX.**

No case of the above diseases occurred during the year.

**ORTHOPAEDIC CASES OF CHILDREN NOT  
ATTENDING SCHOOL.**

The following is the table of work done during the year :—

**MERTHYR CENTRE :**

Number of cases	...	...	...	...	...	...	27
Number of sunlight cases...	...	...	...	...	...	...	75
Number of massage and exercise treatments given	...						238
Number of ultra-violet ray cases	...	...	...	...	...	...	555
Number of plaster of Paris cases	...	...	...	...	...	...	21
Number of visits	...	...	...	...	...	...	5

## DOWLAIS CENTRE :

Number of cases	...	...	...	...	...	...	10
Number of sunlight cases...	...	...	...	...	...	...	45
Number of massage and exercise treatments given	...						67
Number of plaster of Paris cases	...	...	...				14
Number of ultra-violet ray cases	...	...	...				312

## TRESHARRIS CENTRE :

Number of cases	...	...	...	...	...	...	6
Number of massage and exercise treatments given	...						43

**CANCER AND MALIGNANT DISEASE.**

Cancer and Malignant Disease was given as the cause of death in 75 cases. It was responsible for 8.4% of the total deaths, as compared with 10.7% last year. The death rate was 1.05 per thousand of the population, as compared with 1.6 last year.

Facilities for diagnosis of Cancer in the area were discussed last year. Since then there has been a meeting of Local Authorities at Cardiff to discuss the question of a Radio Therapeutic Centre.

## Public Assistance Administration.

---

The Medical Officer of Health attends all Public Assistance Committees and all the Institution Committees, and is responsible for advising the Council on all matters in relation to the public health.

There is a full-time District Medical Officer for the Dowlais and Penydarren area, but in all other areas of the Borough part-time District Medical Officers are employed.

As I have stated, this is an ordinary Report, and details of the number of cases attended by the various doctors are not being published in this Report.

There are three part-time consultants on the staff—Professor Strachan, Dr. Robert Owen, Mr. A. O. Parker.

Several meetings have been held under Section 13 of the Local Government Act, 1929, regarding the interchange of consultants. The matter is still under consideration.

As stated in previous Annual Reports, considerable use has been made of in-patient treatment for expectant mothers. The services of an obstetric consultant have been used freely by the Public Assistance Committee and the Maternity and Child Welfare Committee.

Appended are the classifications of in-patients who were discharged from or who died in the Institution during the year, and a classification of the accommodation for the sick and the number of beds occupied on 31st December, 1939. These tables apply only to the "hospital" side of the Institution :—

TYDFIL LODGE.  
CLASSIFICATION OF THE SICK AND THE NUMBER OF BEDS OCCUPIED ON 29TH DECEMBER, 1939.

Classification of Wards	Number of Wards	BEDS							
		Men		Women		Children		TOTALS	
		Provided	Occupied	Provided	Occupied	Provided	Occupied	Provided	Occupied
Medical ...	8	68	30	38	18	—	—	106	48
Surgical ...	4	18	10	14	7	—	—	32	17
Chronic Sick ...	8	64	64	61	46	—	—	125	110
Children ...	2	—	—	—	—	42	37	42	37
Venereal Diseases ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Tuberculosis... ..	2	4	—	2	—	—	—	6	—
Maternity ...	2	—	—	12	12	—	—	12	12
Mental Disease ...	2	4	4	6	—	—	—	10	4
Isolation ...	4	2	—	2	—	—	—	4	—
TOTALS ...	32	160	108	135	83	42	37	337	228

## IN-PATIENTS.

STATISTICS AS AT QUARTER ENDING DECEMBER 31, 1939.  
(exclusive of casualties due to enemy action, A.R.P. volunteers injured in the course of their duty and Service sick).

1. Total number of admissions (including born in Hospital) ... ..	509
2. Total number of deaths ... ..	71
3. Total number of discharges (including born in Hospital) ... ..	299
4. Duration and stay of patients included in 2 and 3 above :—	
(a) Under four weeks ... ..	298
(b) Four weeks and under thirteen weeks ...	46
(c) Thirteen weeks or more ... ..	26
5. Number of surgical operations under general anæsthetic (excluding dental operations) ... ..	135

## MENTAL DEFICIENCY ACTS, 1913-1927.

1. During the year 1939 no petitions were presented for orders under the Mental Deficiency Acts.

2. No cases were placed under guardianship, and one male was discharged from guardianship.

3. SUMMARY OF DEFECTIVES REMAINING UNDER CARE.—The following is a summary of mental defectives remaining under care, for whom the Local Authority is responsible :—

		<i>Male</i>	<i>Female</i>	<i>Total</i>
(a) In Institutions...	... {	Under 16 yrs.	Nil ... Nil ...	Nil
		Aged 16 years		
		and over ...	11 ... 10 ...	21

		<i>Male</i>		<i>Female</i>		<i>Total</i>
(b) Under guardianship ...	Under 16 yrs.	Nil	...	Nil	...	Nil
	Aged 16 years					
	and over	Nil	...	1	...	1
(c) On Licence from Guardianship	...	Nil	...	Nil	...	Nil
(d) Under supervision in their own homes—						
(i) Children between 14 & 16 yrs.		6	...	7	...	13
(ii) All other cases ...	...	59	...	54	...	113
(e) Public Assistance Institution...	...	12	...	11	...	23

### BLIND PERSONS ACT, 1920.

There are two Committees dealing with the care of the Blind :—

- (1) A Blind Persons Committee set up under the Blind Persons Act, consisting of certain members of the Council and four co-opted members.
- (2) An Institution Committee, which is a voluntary committee.

The Blind Persons Committee are empowered to make a grant of money to blind persons under the scheme. The scheme of the Council under the Blind Persons Act, 1938, provides for an allowance which will bring the income of a blind person up to a maximum of 17s. 6d. per week after taking into consideration the income of the applicant from all sources. Applications are only considered in respect of persons who are registered under the Blind Persons Act, 1920.

Under the Council's scheme the Corporation employ the Institute as agents for employable blind persons, and the Council undertake to pay an augmentive allowance of £50 a year in respect of each worker. Payment to single persons, £1 17s. 0d. per week ; married persons, £2 5s. 0d. per week.

On 31st March, 1940, there were 271 registered blind persons in the County Borough of Merthyr Tydfil — 136 males, 135 females.

There were six children under 16 years of age—2 males and 4 females. Three of these—1 male and 2 females—were being educated at the Bridgend School for the Blind; 1 female is receiving private tuition at home, and 1 male and 1 female are mentally deficient.

There were 21 blind persons employed at the Merthyr Tydfil and Mid-Wales Institution for the Blind—18 males and 3 females. 1 male was employed as a home teacher.

#### BLINDNESS.

A Circular was received from the Ministry in August, 1937, and the Local Authority have decided to adopt the model scheme suggested in the Circular.

### SWIMMING BATHS.

There are three Swimming Baths in the Borough—two open-air and one enclosed. One of the open-air baths is situated at Treharris and the other at Dowlais. The enclosed bath is situated at Penydarren.

The capacity of the Penydarren Baths is 70,000 gallons, and that undergoes complete filtration every four hours. The filtering plant is the pulsometer.

The two open-air baths have a capacity of approximately 130,000 gallons, and complete filtration takes place every six hours. The filtration plant in these cases is the pulsometer.

Fortnightly visits are paid to the Baths by the Medical Officer of Health and the Sanitary Inspectors to gauge the general cleanliness of the Baths, the clarity of the water, and the general facilities.

The Baths Superintendent is familiar with the Orthotolidine method for the test of free chlorine, and a free chlorine content of .3 parts per million is reasonably maintained. In addition, the alkalinity of the water is gauged by a simple colorimetric apparatus, and the P.H. figure of 7 is the figure aimed at.



# General Provision of Health Services in the Borough.

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## MARDY HOSPITAL.

On January 1st, 1939, 31 patients remained in hospital, viz., Scarlet Fever, 2; Diphtheria, 10; Tuberculosis, 19. During the year 180 patients were admitted, viz., Scarlet Fever, 30; Diphtheria, 88; Tuberculosis, 62.

### SCARLET FEVER :

Thirty cases were admitted and 30 were discharged during the year. The disease was of a mild type, and there was one death. The cases admitted into hospital were those from the home where there was an expectant mother or where there were a large number of children, necessitating the exclusion of contacts and consequent loss of much school time.

Number of deaths	...	...	...	...	...	Nil
------------------	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----

Number of patients admitted during 1938 and still in hospital on 1st January, 1939	...	...	2
---	-----	-----	---

Number of patients admitted during 1939 and still in hospital on 1st January, 1940	...	...	...	2
---	-----	-----	-----	---

### DIPHTHERIA :

Eighty-eight cases were admitted and 87 discharged during the year. There were three deaths, giving a case mortality of 3.4%. The case mortality for last year was 3.9%. No positive case was kept in for less a period than five weeks, and in severe cases up to three months.

Number of patients admitted during 1938 and still in hospital on 1st January, 1939...	...	...	13
Number of patients admitted during 1939 and still in hospital on 1st January, 1940...	...	...	10

#### MEASLES—BRONCHO-PNEUMONIA.

Number of patients admitted during 1939	...	...	7
Number of patients discharged during 1939	...	...	9
Number of deaths during 1939	...	...	Nil
Number of patients still in hospital, January, 1940...			Nil

#### PULMONARY TUBERCULOSIS :

Sixty-two patients were admitted and 56 discharged during the year. There were 9 deaths during the year.

Number of patients admitted during 1938 and still in hospital on 1st January, 1939...	...	...	22
Number of patients admitted during 1939 and still in hospital on 1st January, 1940...	...	...	19

	MALE.	FEMALE.
Borough Cases	...	...
Outside Borough Cases	...	...

#### TYPHOID CASES :

Total number of patients admitted during 1939	...	3
Total number of patients discharged during 1939	...	3

#### MENINGITIS :

Number of patients admitted during 1939	...	...	5
Total number of patients discharged during 1939	...	...	3
Total number of deaths during 1939	...	...	2

PARTICULARS OF CASES admitted and discharged at Mardy Hospital—outside areas :—

**ABERDARE.****DIPHTHERIA :**

Total number of patients admitted during 1938 and still in hospital on 1st January, 1939	...	...	5
Total number of patients admitted during 1939	...		55
Total number of patients discharged during 1939	...		31
Total number of deaths during 1939	...	...	3
Total number of patients admitted during 1939 and still in hospital on 1st January, 1940	...	...	26

**BRECON.****DIPHTHERIA :**

Total number of patients admitted during 1938 and still in hospital on 1st January, 1939	...	...	2
Total number of patients admitted during 1939	...		2
Total number of patients discharged during 1939	...		4
Total number of deaths during 1939	...	...	Nil
Total number of patients admitted during 1939 and still in hospital on 1st January, 1940	...	...	Nil

**ABERDARE.****SCARLET FEVER :**

Total number of patients admitted during 1938 and still in hospital on 1st January, 1939	...	...	Nil
Total number of patients admitted during 1939	...		9
Total number of patients discharged during 1939	...		8
Total number of deaths during 1939	...	...	Nil
Total number of patients admitted during 1939 and still in hospital on 1st January, 1940	...	...	1

**BRECON.****SCARLET FEVER :**

Total number of patients admitted during 1938 and still in hospital on 1st January, 1939	...	...	Nil
Total number of patients admitted during 1939	...		2
Total number of patients discharged during 1939	...		2
Total number of deaths during 1939	...	...	Nil
Total number of patients admitted during 1939 and still in hospital on 1st January, 1940	...	...	Nil

**ABERDARE.****TYPHOID CASES :**

Total number of patients admitted during 1939	...	1
Total number of patients discharged during 1939	...	1

**EXPENDITURE.**

The Borough Treasurer has furnished the following table of Expenditure and Income for year ended 31st March, 1940 :—

**MARDY HOSPITAL, STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTS.**

EXPENDITURE	...	...	...	£8170 16 7
INCOME	...	...	...	£4348 9 5
Nett Expenditure for the year	...			<u>£3822 7 2</u>

## OTHER HOSPITALS IN THE BOROUGH.

### THE GENERAL HOSPITAL.

This Hospital has 120 beds, and includes a children's ward. An addition to the Hospital has been opened, and comprises room for eye and ear, nose and throat departments, an X-Ray department, and a children's ward.

### TYDFIL LODGE (FORMERLY THE UNION INFIRMARY).

The accommodation for the sick is 337 beds, and includes hospital accommodation for the Borough and the parts of the Counties of Glamorgan and Brecon that were formerly comprised in the Merthyr Union.

### PONTSARN SANATORIUM.

The Pontsarn Sanatorium is the property of the Welsh National Memorial Association, and has 38 beds for tuberculosis patients.

### TUBERCULOSIS INSTITUTE.

This building is the property of the Welsh National Memorial Association, and is situate in Church Street, Merthyr Tydfil.

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There is no institutional accommodation in the Borough for unmarried mothers, illegitimate infants, or homeless children.

### AMBULANCE FACILITIES.

The Council possesses a motor ambulance for the transport of infectious cases, and also one for accidents, etc. The Public Assistance Committee possess two motor ambulances, as do also several of the colliery companies.

## PROFESSIONAL NURSING IN THE HOME.

(a) GENERAL. There are two Queen's Nurses in the Town District of the Borough, and two Queen's Nurses at Dowlais.

(b) INFECTIOUS DISEASES. The Health Visitors visit cases of measles, whooping-cough, puerperal fever, epidemic diarrhoea and ophthalmia neonatorum in their own homes. The Welsh National Memorial Association provides one nurse for out-patients suffering from tuberculosis.

# VACCINATION.

<i>Registration Sub-Districts</i>	<i>No. of Births</i>	<i>Suc- cess- fully vaccin- ated</i>	<i>Insus- cept- ible</i>	<i>Had Small Pox</i>	<i>No. of con- scien- tious objection declara- tions</i>	<i>Died Un- vaccin- ated</i>	<i>Post- pone- ment by Medical Certifi- cate</i>	<i>Removal to Districts duly appraised</i>	<i>Removal to places un- known</i>	<i>No. of these Births Jan 31st, 1940, neither entered nor tem- porarily accounted for</i>	<i>Total No. of Certificates and copies of successful primary vaccination of children under 14 during Calendar Year 1939</i>	<i>No. of Statutory Declara- tions of con- scientious objection actually received by the V'ac- cination Officer during Calendar Year 1939</i>
1. Merthyr Tydfil Upper ...	627	202	—	—	341	39	3	13	21	8	106	267
2. Merthyr Tydfil Lower ...	371	110	—	—	211	24	4	6	12	4	73	136
TOTAL, ...	998	312	—	—	552	63	7	19	33	12	179	403

RETURN showing the number of persons successfully Vaccinated and Re-vaccinated at the cost of the Rates by the Medical Officers of Institutions and the Public Vaccinators during the year ended 30th September, 1939.

<i>Name of the Institution or Vaccination District</i>	<i>Name of the Medical Officer or Public Vaccinator</i>	<i>Numbers of Successful Primary Vaccinations of Persons</i>			<i>Number of Successful Revaccinations i.e., Successful Vaccinations of persons who had been successfully vaccinated at some pre- vious time</i>
		<i>Under one year of age</i>	<i>One year and upwards</i>	<i>TOTAL</i>	
	TOTALS ... ..	188	5	193	1
Merthyr Tydfil Upper ... ..	Dr. S. Cresswell ... ..	92	—	92	
Merthyr Tydfil Upper ... ..	Dr. S. Bloom ... ..	19	1	20	
Merthyr Tydfil Lower ... ..	Dr. M. Bloom ... ..	19	1	20	
Merthyr Tydfil Lower ... ..	Dr. R. Ryce ... ..	10	—	10	
Merthyr Tydfil Lower ... ..	Dr. C. R. White... ..	34	3	37	1
Merthyr Tydfil Lower ... ..	Dr. E. Foster ... ..	14	—	14	



## WATER SUPPLY.

Nine samples of water for bacteriological and two for chemical analysis were taken during the year.

## CHEMICAL & BACTERIOLOGICAL INVESTIGATIONS.

The total number of specimens submitted for the year 1939 were as follows :—

Examinations of pathological specimens	...	507
Examinations of milk	... ..	53
Inoculation tests for T.B. milk	... ..	53
Miscellaneous examinations	... ..	3

## LABORATORY WORK.

Mr. Rhys Charles acts as Public Analyst for the Borough.

Dr. Scholberg, of Cardiff, however, is pathologist under the Venereal Diseases Scheme, and during the year the following examinations were carried out :—

### FOR DETECTION OF GONOCOCCI :

For Treatment Centre	... ..	49
For Practitioners	... ..	16
For Hospitals and other Institutions	... ..	—

### FOR WASSERMANN REACTION :

For Treatment Centre	... ..	54
For Practitioners	... ..	29
For Hospitals and other Institutions	... ..	3

Several practitioners made applications for supplies of Neokharsivan during the year.



## Inspection and Supervision of Foodstuffs.

### MILK SUPPLY.

On December 31st the names on the register included 129 retail purveyors of milk, 61 cow-keepers and 6 wholesale purveyors of milk.

### MILK LICENSES.

The following licenses were issued during the year :—

One Producer's License, authorising the use of the Special Designation, "Tuberculin Tested," in respect of the farm at which the milk was bottled.

There were two Producers' Licenses, authorising the use of the Special Designation, "Accredited," in respect of farms at which the milk was bottled at the farm.

One Dealer's License, authorising the use of the Special Designation, "Tuberculin Tested."

Four Dealers' Licenses, authorising the use of the Special Designation, "Pasteurised."

One Pasteuriser's License, authorising the use of the Special Designation, "Pasteurised," in relation to milk treated by the Pasteurising process at Merthyr.

During the year the Sanitary Inspectors paid 372 visits of inspection to the dairies and cowsheds, and 28 notices were served under the regulations in respect of dairies, cowsheds and milk-shops. The condition of the cowsheds is now satisfactory, but needs continual vigilance. A dairy is provided in conjunction with every cowshed as well as a milk-cooling apparatus.

Twenty-two samples of milk were reported dirty by the analyst, and 48 slightly dirty, out of a total of 114 which were examined. The necessary warning was given and advice regarding the methods of avoiding contamination. I regret to say that much of the contaminated milk is derived from adjoining farms outside the area.

## **SLAUGHTER-HOUSE AND MEAT INSPECTION.**

There were 8 registered and 6 licensed slaughter-houses in use during the year. Ten notices were served under the Bye-laws to abate nuisances or lime-wash the premises. 3,921 visits were made for the purpose of meat inspection by the Sanitary Inspectors, who all possess the Certificate of the Royal Sanitary Institute for the inspection of meat and other foods.

## **SLAUGHTER OF ANIMALS ACT, 1933.**

Forty-five slaughter-men were given licenses during the year, and the provisions of the above Act regarding the humane and scientific slaughter of animals, including sheep and lambs, were carried out.

The amount of meat condemned during the year was as follows :—

Beef, 9,928 lbs. ; Pork, 2,970 lbs. ; Mutton, 1,396 lbs. ; Livers, 4,092 lbs. ; Chickens, 2 ; Rabbits, 49 ; Eggs, 343.

Other foods condemned were : Fruit, 784 lbs. ; Fish, 5,170 lbs. ; Butter, 48 lbs ; Vegetables, 526 lbs. ; Tinned Goods, 1,364 receptacles.

## **CLOSET ACCOMMODATION.**

One hundred and thirteen notices to provide or repair cisterns in w.c's, and 39 notices to replace long hopper pans, have been served. In addition, 342 notices were served to repair dilapidated, defective and choked drains.

## SCAVENGING.

### DISTRICT No. 1.

COLLECTION OF REFUSE takes place on alternate days.

TOWN. The refuse from the Town area was deposited at the Llyn, Llwyncelyn.

TRADE REFUSE is collected on specific days, and charges made by the Corporation.

### DISTRICT No. 2.

DOWLAIS. The refuse of the district is disposed of at :—

- (1) Gellifaelog Cwm.
- (2) Caeracca ; and in very much smaller quantities at :
- (3) Blaen Dowlais and
- (4) Dowlais Top.

### DISTRICT No. 3.

REFUSE COLLECTION. Collection of refuse takes place on alternate days.

REFUSE DISPOSAL. The refuse from the lower part of the district, viz., Bethesda Street, Morgantown, and streets on the left of Brecon Road which are in Cyfarthfa Ward, and all refuse from Park and the lower end of Penydarren is deposited at Llwyncelyn Tip.

The refuse from the upper portion of the district (Penydarren Ward) is deposited in the old brewery hollow at Gellifaelog.

TRADE REFUSE is collected, and the following charges are made by the Corporation :—

Wet and vegetable refuse, 1/- per cwt.

Cardboard, paper and straw packing, 6d. per sack.

Large quantities of refuse, 6/- per load.

(The term "Trade Refuse" does not include sludge, earth, or old building material.)

#### DISTRICT No. 4.

COLLECTION OF REFUSE takes place on alternate days.

#### REFUSE DISPOSAL—

*Abercanaid and Pentrebach.*—Refuse from these districts was deposited on sites near Abercanaid Station.

*Troedyrhiw, Merthyr Vale and Aberfan.*—Refuse collected in these districts was deposited on the south side of the Sewage Farm, near The Grove.

*Treharris and Quakers' Yard.*—Refuse collected in these districts was deposited near the Old Tramroad, The Graig.

Trade Refuse is collected, the usual charge being made by the Corporation.

#### TOTAL FIGURES FOR THE BOROUGH.

The total amount of refuse, on test-weighing, was estimated to be 53,534 tons. The weight in cwts. per 1,000 persons per day, 365 days to the year, was 46.37 cwts.

Population : 62,250.

#### *Method of Collection.*

Horse Vehicles, 28.

Mechanical Vehicles, 4.

Number of Premises dealt with, 16,930.

## SANITARY INSPECTIONS OF THE AREA.

Of the Notices served, 503 were Statutory and 790 Informal.

<i>Nuisances detected—</i>	DISTRICTS				
	No. 1	No. 2	No. 3	No. 4	Tot'l
1. Dilapidated, defective and choked drains ... ..	79	81	84	98	342
2. Insufficient w.c. accommodation .... .	5	9	9	4	27
3. To open and repair slop drains	53	34	60	69	216
4. To provide slop drains ...	2	7	3	5	17
5. To drain urinals ... ..	—	—	—	2	2
6. To provide cisterns in w.c.'s ...	27	16	21	44	108
7. To pave backyards ... ..	24	13	15	16	68
8. To repair stable drains ...	—	—	—	—	—
9. To provide manure receptacles	—	1	—	2	3
10. To remove foul accumulations	26	2	6	16	50
11. To repair dilapidated dwellings	58	21	42	61	182
12. To cleanse dwelling-houses ...	11	8	6	20	45
13. To provide rainwater troughing	75	142	105	123	445
14. To prevent escape of sewer gas into houses ... ..	8	—	5	12	25
15. To ventilate drains ... ..	9	7	3	12	31
16. To remove fowls, animals, &c.	3	1	2	6	12
17. To prevent overcrowding ...	—	1	7	—	8
18. Under Slaughterhouse Byelaws	4	—	1	5	10
19. Under Factory and Workshops Act ... ..	7	—	2	8	17
20. Under Dairies and Cowsheds Regulations ... ..	6	2	5	14	27
21. To provide a separate water supply ... ..	—	2	—	2	4
22. To prevent pollution of brook	—	1	2	6	9
23. Common Lodging-houses ...	2	—	—	—	2

SANITARY INSPECTIONS—*continued.*

<i>Nuisances detected—</i>	No. 1	No. 2	No. 3	No. 4	Tot'l
24. Houses let in lodgings ...	7	6	2	—	15
25. To repair defective roofs causing dampness ...	100	108	101	118	427
26. To remove long hopper pans...	11	10	10	8	39
27. To provide sinks in houses ...	4	4	—	3	11
28. To connect drainage cesspit to sewer ...	—	1	—	5	6
29. To cleanse cesspit ...	—	—	—	8	8
30. To close stable as insanitary...	—	—	—	—	—
31. To divide common backyard...	—	3	2	12	17
32. To provide proper coalplaces...	12	11	7	20	50
33. Other nuisances ...	34	82	41	40	197

## INSPECTIONS MADE DURING THE YEAR :

House-to-house ...	337	415	412	305	1469
Infectious diseases investigation	54	59	73	103	289
Infectious diseases re-visited ...	56	67	71	105	299
Slaughter-houses ...	1272	1080	314	1074	3740
Cowsheds and Dairies ...	76	54	102	136	368
Common Lodging-houses ...	36	20	—	—	56
Houses let in lodgings ...	50	10	40	—	100
Workshops ...	61	73	62	98	294
Bakehouses ...	65	70	83	87	305
Complaints received ...	88	148	153	77	466

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## RESULTS OF THE ABOVE INSPECTIONS :

Nuisances detected ...	567	573	541	739	2420
Notices issued ...	319	240	356	351	1266
Premises disinfected ...	49	57	69	102	277
Clothing disinfected ...	49	57	69	102	277
	<i>ft.</i>	<i>ft.</i>	<i>ft.</i>	<i>ft.</i>	<i>ft.</i>
Length of drain tested ...	877	1298	6540	935	9650

## **COMMON LODGING HOUSES.**

There are 11 common lodging-houses in the Borough, and 88 visits of inspection were made by the Inspectors. Two notices were served during the year to abate nuisances or remedy defects. The conditions generally may be said to be satisfactory; and, as reported previously, the accommodation is considerably in excess of the demand.

## **HOUSES LET IN LODGINGS.**

Forty-seven remain on the Register. One hundred visits of inspection were made by the Sanitary Inspectors, and 15 notices were served to abate nuisances or remedy defects.

## **OFFENSIVE TRADES.**

There are now 5 premises where offensive trades are carried on: gut-scrapers, 2; fellmongers, 1; knackers, 1; fat-rendering, 1. Complaints of offensive effluvia received during the year were promptly dealt with and remedied.

## **SCHOOLS.**

The sanitary condition has been reported on in the School Medical Report to the Board of Education. The action taken in relation to the health of the scholars and for preventing the spread of infectious diseases is in conformity with the Memorandum on the Closure and Exclusion from School, 1925, issued conjointly by the Ministry of Health and the Board of Education.

## **RATS AND MICE (DESTRUCTION) ORDER, 1919.**

During the year the Inspectors report that 147 premises, including tips, culverts, allotments and schools have been dealt with. When complaints are received, investigations are made at



the complainant's and adjoining premises. Three series of baits are laid at each infested premises, with a week's time intervening between each. Gratifying results have been obtained by the added interest taken by the tradesmen and others of the notification of the rodents, and it has been seldom necessary to revisit the premises after three series of baits have been laid. Nothing is left undone, month by month, to thoroughly cope with the extermination of the rodents.

### **FACTORIES AND WORKSHOPS.**

There are 310 workshops and workplaces (including bakehouses) on the register, and (excluding bakehouses) 455 visits of inspection were made during the year.

### **FACTORIES ACT, 1937.**

There are 98 factories with mechanical power (including bakehouses), and 218 visits of inspection were made.

The number of factories where mechanical power is not used is 121, and the number of visits paid were 337.

### **SHOPS ACTS, 1912—1938.**

A Shops Inspector was appointed in December, 1938, and the following is his report for the year :—

The Shops Acts 1912-1938 are Acts which, *inter alia*, make provisions for the closing of shops, the health and comfort of employees, and the regulation of hours of employment of young persons employed in wholesale and retail shops and warehouses, cinemas, etc.

In connection with the registration and inspection of shops 1,460 visits were paid to shops and other business premises, to check the hours of employment of young persons under the Shops Act, 1934, under the Sunday Trading (Restrictions) Act, 1936, and under the Young Persons Employment Act, 1938.



During the year 2124 visits were paid to Shops, Warehouses, Cinemas and Billiards Halls, and as a result of 664 visits in connection with Section 10, Shops Act 1934, defects were noted in 79 instances; as a result of the service of informal notices suitable and sufficient means were provided for regulation of temperature, sanitary conveniences, lighting and washing facilities as follows:—

REQUIREMENT.	<i>Number</i>		<i>Informal</i>	<i>Statutory</i>
	<i>Defective</i>		<i>notices served</i>	<i>notices served</i>
Provision and maintenance of :—				
1. Sanitary Conveniences ...	25	25	Nil	
2. Washing facilities ...	16	16	Nil	
3. Temperature... ..	21	21	Nil	
4. Ventilation ... ..	15	15	Nil	
5. Facilities for meals... ..	2	2	Nil	
	<hr/>			
TOTAL ...	79	79	Nil	
	<hr/> <hr/>			

# Housing.

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					DISTRICTS				
					No. 1	No. 2	No. 3	No. 4	Tot'l
Number of houses inspected	...	...	...	...	337	309	412	305	1363
Defective drains	...	...	...	...	44	25	45	39	153
Choked drains	...	...	...	...	52	21	55	50	178
Unventilated drains	...	...	...	...	9	4	2	12	27
Pans in a filthy condition	...	...	...	...	25	22	12	8	67
Absence of, or defective cisterns...	...	...	...	...	30	27	26	31	114
Absence of, or defective sinks	...	...	...	...	20	9	19	22	70
Insufficient w.c. accommodation...	...	...	...	...	5	9	14	4	32
Houses in a filthy condition	...	...	...	...	11	8	28	20	67
Houses in bad repair and damp...	...	...	...	...	58	21	42	61	182
Broken pavement in yard	...	...	...	...	13	13	11	16	53
Animals and fowls in yard	...	...	...	...	3	9	3	6	21
Refuse in yard	...	...	...	...	12	2	8	16	38
Other nuisances	...	...	...	...	24	43	31	24	122

Details in respect of each Ward :—

Ward.	Houses Unaffected (Form A).	Houses Unaffected (Form B).	Overcrowded Dwellings (Form B).	Number of houses actually returned.	Number of houses investigated.	Number of sub-tenants.	No. of houses with both tenants and sub-tenants affected (Form A).	Percentage of overcrowding in Wards.
Dowlais ...	1809	175	138	2122	1942	180	17	6.5%
Penydarren ...	2587	242	230	3059	2825	234	49	6.5%
Park ...	1204	108	88	1400	1212	188	16	6.3%
Cyfarthfa ...	1479	204	206	1889	1571	318	30	10.9%
Town ...	2119	260	194	2573	2121	452	31	7.5%
Plymouth ...	1871	161	77	2109	1788	321	20	3.6%
Merthyr Vale ...	1457	87	30	1574	1329	245	10	1.9%
Treharris...	1589	125	103	1817	1523	294	30	5.7%
TOTAL	<u>14115</u>	<u>1362</u>	<u>1066</u>	<u>16543</u>	<u>14311</u>	<u>2232</u>	<u>203</u>	—

The percentage of overcrowding in Borough is 6.4%



## HOUSING STATISTICS.

### NEW HOUSES.

Number of New Houses erected during the year :—

(a) Total, including numbers given separately under (b) ...	137
(b) With State assistance under the Housing Acts :—	
(i) By the Local Authority ... ..	137
(ii) By other bodies or persons ... ..	—

#### 1. INSPECTION OF DWELLING HOUSES DURING THE YEAR.

	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	Total
(1) (a) Total number of dwelling houses inspected (for housing defects under Public Health or Housing Acts) ... ..	376	368	485	408	1637
(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose ... ..	520	403	685	612	2220
(2) (a) Number of dwelling houses (included under sub-head 1 above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925 ...	327	309	412	305	1353
(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose ... ..	483	373	579	468	1899
(3) Number of dwelling houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation ... ..	58	—	42	61	161
(4) Number of dwelling houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation ... ..	175	—	206	241	622

#### 2. REMEDY OF DEFECTS DURING THE YEAR WITHOUT SERVICE OF FORMAL NOTICES :

Number of defective dwelling houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their Officers ... ..	185	—	215	183	583
--	-----	---	-----	-----	-----

#### 3. ACTION UNDER STATUTORY POWERS DURING THE YEAR :

##### A.—Proceedings under Sections 9, 10 and 16 of the Housing Act, 1936 :

(1) Number of dwelling houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs ... ..	—	—	—	—	—
(2) Number of dwelling houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices :—					
(a) By Owners... ..	—	—	—	—	—
(b) By Local Authority in default of Owners ... ..	—	—	—	—	—

HOUSING STATISTICS—*continued.*

	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	Total
B.—Proceedings under the Public Health Acts :—					
(1) Number of dwelling houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied...	134	—	133	141	408
(2) Number of dwelling houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices ... ..					
(a) By Owners ... ..	125	—	128	135	388
(b) By Local Authority in default of Owners ... ..	—	—	—	—	—
C.—Proceedings under Sections 11 and 13 of the Housing Act, 1936 :—					
(1) Number of dwelling houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made ... ..	4	1	—	—	5
(2) Number of dwelling houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders ... ..	—	—	—	—	—
D.—Proceedings under Section 12 of the Housing Act, 1936 :—					
(1) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were made	1	—	—	—	1
Premises closed ... ..	1	—	—	—	1
(2) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the tenement or room having been rendered fit ... ..	—	—	—	—	—
E.—Proceedings under Section 3 of the Housing Act, 1925 :—					
(1) Number of dwelling houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs ... ..	—	—	—	—	—
(2) Number of dwelling houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices :—					
(a) By Owners ... ..	—	—	—	—	—
(b) By Local Authorities in default of Owners... ..	—	—	—	—	—
(3) Number of dwelling houses in respect of which Closing Orders became operative in pursuance of declarations by Owners of intentions to close ... ..	—	—	—	—	—

HOUSING STATISTICS—*continued*.

	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	Total
F.—Proceedings under Sections 11, 14 & 15 of the Housing Act, 1925 :—					
(1) Number of dwelling houses in respect of which Closing Orders were made ... ..	—	—	—	—	—
(2) Number of dwelling houses in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the dwelling houses having been rendered fit ... ..	—	—	—	—	—
(3) Number of dwelling houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made ... ..	—	—	—	—	—
(4) Number of dwelling houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders ... ..	—	—	—	—	—
Number of removals of tenants under Slum Clearance Scheme to complete first year's programme ...	—	—	—	—	—
From Houses ... ..	—	—	—	—	—
From Cellars or parts of Houses ...	—	—	—	—	—
Furniture and effects disinfected ...	—	—	—	—	—
4. NUMBER OF HOUSES OWNED BY THE LOCAL AUTHORITY, DISTINGUISHING THOSE BUILT IN THE LAST THREE YEARS AND HELD UNDER PART 2 OF THE HOUSING ACT, 1925, and (2) OTHER POWERS.					
Houses owned by the Local Authority—1081.					
By Purchase ... ..			7		
Under 1890 Act ... ..			347		
Under 1919 Act ... ..			236		
Under 1924 Act ... ..			226		
Under 1930 Act ... ..			108		
Under 1936 Act ... ..			257		
				365	

## ERADICATION OF BED BUGS.

The following table shows the Inspectors' work regarding the eradication of bed bugs.

(a) NUMBER OF COUNCIL HOUSES—	
(i) Found infested ... ..	13
(ii) Disinfested ... ..	13
(b) NUMBER OF OTHER HOUSES—	
(i) Found infested ... ..	90
(ii) Disinfested ... ..	90
(c) Slum removal effects disinfested ...	100

These houses were visited either in normal house-to-house inspections or as the result of complaints from the tenants. The Inspectors report that excellent results have been obtained by cleaning and scrubbing, carried out systematically, with soap and water. In addition, sulphur fumigation, Izal spray and insecticide sprays were used.

With regard to the removal of tenants from Slum Clearance areas to the new Housing Estate, the furniture and effects were disinfected with hydro-cyanic acid gas. The bedding was steam disinfected, and all clothing was similarly steam disinfected. This work was carried out by a Contractor for furniture effects, and by the Local Authority in respect of the disinfection of clothing and bedding.

## PUBLIC HEALTH (MEAT) REGULATIONS, 1924.

The regulations generally have been satisfactorily carried out during the year. The handling and transport of meat is observed in accordance with the above regulations, and the hawkers' carts are protected in such a manner as to prevent contamination of the meat.

The use of greaseproof paper is rigidly enforced for the wrapping of meat and bacon.

Notice of emergency slaughter continues to be given where necessary. The slaughter of pigs, etc., even for home consumption, is invariably carried out at the slaughter-houses. prior notice being given in each case as to the place and time of slaughter.

All meat-carriers in the Borough are provided with and wear washable head-covering and overalls when carrying meat.

### NUMBER KILLED :

Cattle.	Cows.	Calves.	Sheep and Lambs.	Pigs.
2,328	228	633	20,116	5,756

### NUMBER INSPECTED :

Cattle.	Cows.	Calves.	Sheep and Lambs.	Pigs.	Total Inspected
2,328	228	633	20,116	5,756	29,061

### ALL DISEASES EXCEPT TUBERCULOSIS :

#### *Whole carcasses condemned—*

Cattle.	Cows.	Calves.	Sheep and Lambs.	Pigs.
2	3	—	8	4

#### *Carcase of which some part or organ was condemned—*

Cattle.	Cows.	Calves.	Sheep and Lambs.	Pigs.
334	101	6	1,661	334



PERCENTAGE of the number inspected affected with disease other than tuberculosis—8.44.

TUBERCULOSIS ONLY :

*Whole carcasses condemned—*

Cattle.	Cows.	Calves.	Sheep and Lambs.	Pigs.
6	4	—	—	12

*Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned—*

Cattle.	Cows.	Calves.	Sheep and Lambs.	Pigs.
358	45	—	—	201

PERCENTAGE of the number inspected affected with tuberculosis—2.15

## INSPECTION OF PLACES WHERE FOOD IS PREPARED.

**RESTAURANT KITCHENS.** Including licensed premises where food is prepared, there are 29 in the Borough. Owing to the closure of the steelworks at Dowlais there is not the same demand for meals in restaurant kitchens. In two instances it was necessary to call attention to the neglect of cleansing and lime-washing. Otherwise the Inspectors report favourably as to the sanitary conditions and the condition of the foods.

**FISH-FRYING AND CHIP POTATO SHOPS.** There are 39 in the Borough, and these are regularly visited by the Sanitary Inspectors, who report favourably as to their conditions and absence of nuisance.

**ICE-CREAM VENDORS.** There are 59 premises on the register; the number is six more than last year. These pre-

mises are all kept under constant supervision, and a number of applications for registration were refused owing to the unsuitability of the premises.

**BAKEHOUSES.** Fifty-eight premises were in use during the year, including one certified underground bakehouse. Three hundred and ten visits were made during the year; 16 notices of repairs and lime-washing, etc., were served. The conditions generally were satisfactory.

**BUTCHERS.** Small goods, including brawn, polonies, pies, faggots, etc., were prepared at 52 butchers' establishments and four cottages. At the butchers' establishments the work is carried out in a special room, and electric power is available. In the cottages a small business is done. All the premises are regularly visited by the Inspectors, and the conditions found to be satisfactory.

**MERCHANDISE MARKS ACT, 1926.** The provisions of this Act are now being carried out satisfactorily. It has been necessary to warn a number of traders during the early part of the year, but since the Act has been explained to them the necessary markings are carried out.

**AGRICULTURAL PRODUCE GRADING AND MARKING ACT, 1928.** The marking of eggs in accordance with this Act has been carried out.

---

Mr. R. P. Charles acts as Public Analyst, and the following is his report for the year :—

## FOOD AND DRUGS ADULTERATION ACT.

During the year 112 formal and 2 informal samples of milk were taken for analysis. In four cases the samples were below the legal standard :—

- 1 case—4% deficient in fat.
- 1 case—3.5% added water.
- 1 case—35% deficient in fat.
- 1 case—6% deficient in fat.

The following were the prosecutions and results :—

M.J. : 4% deficient in fat—dismissed ;

T.L. : 35% deficient in fat—fined £5.

3.5% added water—no prosecution advised.

Forty-one formal and one informal samples of butter were taken for analysis. All were found genuine.

Thirty-six samples of vinegar were taken—two were found deficient in acetic acid—No. 1, 17% deficient ; No. 2, 40% deficient. The following were the prosecutions :—

D.J.W. : dismissed on payment of 14/6 costs.

T.R. : fined £2.

In addition to those samples, samples of the following foods were taken for analysis :—

	Formal Samples.		Genuine.		Adulterated.
Sausage .....	12	...	12	...	—
Lard .....	6	...	6	...	—
Jam .....	6	...	6	...	—
Vinegar .....	36	...	36	...	—
Coffee.....	2	...	2	...	—
Dried Peas .....	9	...	9	...	—
Pepper .....	6	...	6	...	—
Rice.....	6	...	6	...	—
Tea .....	12	...	12	...	—

FOOD AND DRUGS—*continued.*

	Formal Samples.		Genuine.		Adulterated.
Dried fruit.....	6	...	6	...	—
Tinned fish .....	2	...	2	...	—
Butter .....	41	...	41	...	—
Tinned cream .....	3	...	3	...	—
Cocoa .....	6	...	6	...	—
Whisky .....	1	...	1	...	—

	Informal Samples.		Genuine.		Adulterated.
Tinned tomatoes .....	1	...	1	...	—
Tinned cream .....	1	...	1	...	—
Coffee .....	6	...	6	...	—
Coffee extract .....	1	...	1	...	—
Cream .....	5	...	5	...	—
Condensed milk .....	12	...	12	...	—
Beer.....	1	...	1	...	—
Bread .....	3	...	3	...	—
Rice .....	1	...	1	...	—
Butter .....	1	...	1	...	—
Tincture of Iodine ....	1	...	1	...	—

Of the food examined for the presence of preservative, all were found to be within the prescribed limits.

### **PUBLIC HEALTH (MILK & CREAM) REGULATIONS, 1912—1927.**

REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDING 31ST DECEMBER, 1939.

#### 1. Milk and Cream not sold as prepared cream :—

(a) Number of samples examined for the presence of a pre- servative.		(b) Number in which a preserva- tive was reported to be present and percentage of preservative in each sample.
Milk ... 126	...	Nil.
Cream ... 9	...	Nil.

All the samples of cream were genuine and of good quality.

## PROSECUTIONS OTHER THAN MILK.

A.B.B. : Dog in slaughterhouse—fined £1.

N.H. & S.C. : Hawking toys for rags—fined 4/- each, plus 2/6 costs.

## DENTAL REPORT FOR 1939.

The DENTAL OFFICER submits the following Report :—

Number of mothers treated at Clinic	223
Fillings .....	38
Extractions .....	1175
Local anæsthetics .....	130
Other operations.....	47
General anæsthetics .....	211
Attendances made .....	236

During the year 1939 fifty-eight mothers received artificial dentures.

Infant Welfare cases :—

Fillings .....	32
Extractions .....	246
Local anæsthetics .....	98
Other operations.....	23
Attendances made .....	194

JAMES A. WYLIE, L.D.S., R.F.P.S.,

Dental Officer.

T. H. STEPHENS, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.,

Medical Officer of Health.



TABLE I.  
VITAL STATISTICS OF WHOLE DISTRICT DURING 1939 AND PREVIOUS YEARS.  
Name of District—MERTHYR TYDFIL.

Year	Population Estimated to Middle of Year	Births			Total Deaths Registered in District		Transferable Deaths		Nett Deaths belonging to the District			
		Un- corrected Number	Nett		Number	Rate	Of Non- Residents Registered in the District	Of Resi- dents not Registered in the District	Under 1 year of Age		At all Ages	
			Number	Rate					Number	Rate per 1,000 Nett Births	Number	Rate
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
1927	79,700	1257	1262	15.8	1102	13.8	110	38	131	103	1030	12.9
1928	79,500	1229	1225	15.4	1069	13.4	108	43	115	93	1064	12.6
1929	77,790	1220	1196	15.3	1159	14.8	87	36	128	106	1108	14.2
1930	77,790	1197	1179	15.1	1031	13.2	93	35	108	91	973	12.5
1931	71,480	1170	1142	15.9	1170	14.96	120	65	120	105	1015	14.2
1932	70,690	1062	1040	14.7	1034	14.6	120	52	76	73	966	13.66
1933	69,680	1043	1025	14.7	1094	15.7	123	47	92	89.7	971	13.9
1934	68,700	1065	1018	14.8	1039	15.1	117	39	76	74	961	13.9
1935	67,200	1064	1016	15.1	1054	15.7	119	54	76	74	989	14.7
1936	65,640	961	923	14.06	1087	16.5	106	38	73	79	913	13.9
1937	63,250	970	896	14.16	1089	17.2	113	43	71	79	906	14.3
1938	62,250	—	939	15.08	1112	17.8	135	55	73	77	977	15.69
1939	61,520	—	902	14.68	1117	14.49	139	53	77	85	892	14.49

Area of District in acres (land and inland waters), 17,761 Acres.

Estimated Population at all ages, 61,520





TABLE III.

## CAUSES OF DEATH AT DIFFERENT PERIODS OF LIFE DURING THE YEAR 1939.

Name of District MERTHYR TYDFIL.

CAUSES OF DEATH	Sex	All Ages	0-1	1-2	2-5	5-15	15-25	25-35	35-45	45-55	55-65	65-75	Over 75
ALL CAUSES ... ..	M	531	41	7	9	23	23	21	31	56	99	152	69
	F	446	32	9	5	10	20	33	25	42	79	91	100
1. Typhoid and Paratyphoid Fevers ... ..	M	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	F	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
2. Measles ... ..	M	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	F	2	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
3. Scarlet Fever ... ..	M	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	F	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
4. Whooping Cough ... ..	M	2	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	F	2	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
5. Diphtheria ... ..	M	1	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
	F	2	—	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
6. Influenza ... ..	M	17	—	—	—	—	—	1	2	1	6	5	2
	F	4	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	3	—	—
7. Encephalitis Lethargica ... ..	M	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—
	F	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
8. Cerebro-Spinal Fever ... ..	M	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	F	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
9. Tuberculosis of Respiratory System ... ..	M	23	—	—	—	—	7	9	3	2	2	—	—
	F	21	—	—	—	—	9	5	5	—	1	1	—
10. Other Tuberculous Diseases... ..	M	3	—	—	1	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
	F	3	1	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
11. Syphilis... ..	M	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	F	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
12 General Paralysis of the Insane, Tabes Dorsalis	M	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	F	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—
13. Cancer, Malignant Disease ... ..	M	41	—	—	—	—	—	1	2	7	13	14	4
	F	34	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	4	7	10	11
14. Diabetes ... ..	M	5	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	4	—
	F	4	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1	1	1	—
15. Cerebral Hæmorrhage, &c. ... ..	M	41	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	6	11	17	6
	F	31	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	9	14	7
16. Heart Disease... ..	M	124	—	—	—	—	4	2	3	14	36	47	18
	F	112	—	—	—	2	4	4	7	10	30	32	23
17. Aneurism ... ..	M	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	F	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
18. Other Circulatory Diseases ... ..	M	14	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1	—	9	3
	F	7	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	4	1
19. Bronchitis ... ..	M	28	5	—	—	1	—	—	1	2	1	6	12
	F	21	5	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	8	8
20. Pneumonia (all forms) ... ..	M	25	3	1	2	1	1	3	5	3	4	1	1
	F	20	3	4	—	1	—	1	3	2	3	2	1
21. Other Respiratory Diseases... ..	M	7	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	1	2	2	—
	F	4	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	2	1	—
22. Peptic Ulcer ... ..	M	5	—	—	—	—	—	2	3	—	—	—	—
	F	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
23. Diarrhoea ... ..	M	5	3	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	F	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
24. Appendicitis ... ..	M	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	F	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—
25. Cirrhosis of Liver ... ..	M	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	1
	F	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
26. Other Diseases of Liver ... ..	M	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	1	—	—
	F	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
27. Other Digestive Diseases ... ..	M	6	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	1	1	1
	F	6	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	1	1	2
28. Acute and Chronic Nephritis ... ..	M	8	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	1	4	1
	F	14	—	—	—	—	3	—	2	3	1	3	2
29. Puerperal Sepsis ... ..	F	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
30. Other Puerperal Causes ... ..	F	3	—	—	—	—	1	1	1	—	—	—	—
31. Congenital Debility, Premature Birth, Malformations, &c. ... ..	M	24	24	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	F	16	15	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
32. Senility... ..	M	25	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	5	20
	F	46	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	11	35
33. Suicide ... ..	M	6	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	1	1	1	—
	F	4	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	2	1	—
34. Other Violence ... ..	M	34	1	—	—	1	7	1	7	5	8	2	2
	F	2	1	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—
35. Other Defined Diseases ... ..	M	37	8	1	—	1	1	2	1	2	4	12	5
	F	30	4	2	1	2	2	1	2	6	5	4	1
36. Causes Ill-defined or Unknown ... ..	M	4	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	2	2
	F	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	2	—	—

Resident Population :  
 For purposes of B.R. — 61,440  
 For purposes of D.R. ..... 61,520

Under 1 year { Legitimate      Illegitimate  
                          M      45      ...      1  
                          F      27      ...      4



TABLE IV.

## INFANT MORTALITY 1939.

Nett Deaths from stated causes at various Ages under 1 year of age.

CAUSE OF DEATH		Under 1 week	1—2 weeks	2—3 weeks	3—4 weeks	Total under 4 weeks	4 weeks and under 3 mths.	3 months and under 6 mths.	6 months and under 9 mths.	9 months and under 12mths.	Total Deaths under one year
All Causes {	Certified ...	24	2	4	9	1	10	8	4	4	66
	Uncertified ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Small Pox ...		—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Chicken Pox ...		—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Measles ...		—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Scarlet Fever ...		—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Whooping Cough ...		—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Diphtheria and Croup ...		—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Heart ...		1	—	2	—	1	1	—	—	—	5
Tuberculous Meningitis ...		—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1
Abdominal Tuberculous (C) ...		—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Other Tuberculous Diseases ...		—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Meningitis (Not Tuberculous) ...		—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1
Convulsions ...		3	1	1	4	—	3	2	—	2	16
Asthenia ...		3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3
Bronchitis ...		—	—	1	—	—	3	1	—	1	6
Pneumonia (All Forms) ...		—	—	—	—	—	1	3	1	2	7
Diarrhoea ...		—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Gastritis ...		—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Syphilis ...		—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Rickets ...		—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Suffocation... ..		—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	1
Injury at Birth ...		—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Atelectasis ...		—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Congenital Debility ...		3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3
Premature Birth ...		13	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	15
Atrophy, Debility and Marasmus ...		—	1	—	1	—	—	2	—	—	4
Other Causes ...		1	—	—	2	—	1	—	2	—	6
		24	2	4	9	1	10	8	4	4	66

Nett Births in the year { Legitimate — 857  
 { Illegitimate — 45

Nett Deaths in the year { Legitimate — 72  
 { Illegitimate — 5



TABLE IVa.

## INFANT MORTALITY 1939.

Nett Deaths from stated Causes at various ages under 1 year of age.

CAUSE OF DEATH	Dowlais Ward	P'darren Ward	Park Ward	Cyfarthfa Ward	Town Ward	Plymouth Ward	Merthyr Vale Ward	Treharris Ward	Total
All Causes { Certified ...	11	6	4	12	13	11	7	2	66
{ Uncertified ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Small Pox ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Chicken Pox ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Measles ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Scarlet Fever ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Whooping Cough ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Diphtheria and Croup ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Heart ...	—	—	—	1	1	—	2	1	5
Tuberculous Meningitis ...	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Abdominal Tuberculous (C) ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Other Tuberculous Diseases ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Meningitis (Not Tuberculous) ...	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	1
Convulsions ...	6	—	—	5	4	1	—	—	16
Asthenia ...	—	1	—	—	—	2	—	—	3
Bronchitis ...	—	1	1	1	2	1	—	—	6
Pneumonia (All Forms) ...	1	—	1	—	4	—	1	—	7
Diarrhoea ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Gastritis ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Syphilis ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Rickets ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Suffocation ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1
Injury at Birth ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Atelectasis ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Congenital Debility ...	1	—	—	—	—	1	—	1	3
Premature Birth ...	1	3	1	4	—	4	2	—	15
Atrophy, Debility and Marasmus ...	1	—	—	—	2	—	1	—	4
Other Causes ...	1	—	1	1	2	1	—	—	6
	11	6	4	12	13	11	7	2	66

Nett Births in the year { Legitimate — 857  
 { Illegitimate — 45

Nett Deaths in the year { Legitimate — 72  
 { Illegitimate — 5





TABLE II.

CASES OF INFECTIOUS DISEASE NOTIFIED DURING THE YEAR 1939.

Name of District—MERTHYR TYDFIL.

[illegible]





# TABLE V.

TABLE V.—ANNUAL REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH.  
For the Year 1939 for the County Borough of Merthyr Tydfil on the Administration of the Factory and Workshop Act. 1901, and the Factories Act, 1937, which superseded the Act of 1901 on 1st July, 1938.

## INSPECTIONS FOR PURPOSES OF PROVISIONS AS TO HEALTH, INCLUDING INSPECTIONS MADE BY SANITARY INSPECTORS.

Premises (1)	Number of		
	Inspections (2)	Written Notices (3)	Occupiers Prosecuted (4)
Factories with Mechanical Power ...	218	4	Nil
Factories without Mechanical Power ...	337	3	Nil
Other Premises under the Act (including works of building and engineering con- struction, but not including outworkers' premises) ... ..	28	1	Nil
TOTAL, ... ..	583	8	Nil

# V. 2.—DEFECTS FOUND.

Particulars	Number of Defects			Number of defects in respect of which Prosecutions were instituted (5)
	Found (2)	Remedied (3)	Referred to H.M. Inspector (4)	
(1)				
Want of Cleanliness (Section 1)	9	9	—	—
Overcrowding (Section 2)	—	—	—	—
Unreasonable Temperature (Section 3)	—	—	—	—
Inadequate Ventilation (Section 4)	—	—	—	—
Ineffective Drainage of Floors (Section 6)	—	—	—	—
Sanitary Conveniences S. 7 {	2	2	—	—
	6	6	—	—
	1	1	—	—
Other Offences	—	—	—	—
(Not including offences relating to Home Work or offences under the Sections mentioned in the Schedule to the Ministry of Health (Factories and Workshops Transfer of Powers) Order, 1921, and re-enacted in the Third Schedule to the Factories Act, 1937.)				
TOTAL	18	18	—	—

V. 3.—OUTWORK IN UNWHOLESOME PREMISES.      Section 108.

NATURE OF WORK (1)	Instances (2)	Notices Served (3)	Prosecutions (4)
WEARING APPAREL :— Making, etc....      ...      ...      ...	Nil	Nil	Nil
TOTAL      ...      ...      ...	Nil	Nil	Nil





